

Fact Sheet

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Barbara Hersh

785-296-0901

Barbara.Hersh@dol.ks.gov

Labor Market Report Highlights May 2015

Learn about the difference between seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted numbers [here](#).

Labor Force and Unemployment

- The May 2015 seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.4 percent, up from 4.3 percent in April and down from 4.5 percent in May 2014.
- The May 2015 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Kansas was 4.5 percent, up from 4.3 percent in April, and unchanged from one year ago.
- There were 14,120 initial claims for unemployment benefits in May 2015, up from 12,780 in April and up from 12,518 in May 2014. There were 70,450 continued claims in May, down from 74,735 the previous month and down from 76,255 in May 2014.

Jobs Data

Seasonally Adjusted

- The state added 8,300 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs over the year, a 0.7 percent gain. Kansas gained 6,500 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs since May 2014, a 0.5 percent increase.
- Seasonally adjusted private sector jobs decreased by 1,500 since last month, a 0.1 percent decline. Since April, the state lost 3,800 seasonally adjusted nonfarm jobs, a 0.3 percent decrease.

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Kansas gained 6,000 private sector jobs since May 2014, a 0.5 percent increase. The state gained 4,400 nonfarm jobs over the year, a 0.3 percent increase.
- Private sector jobs increased by 5,000 since April, a 0.4 percent increase. Over the month, Kansas gained 3,400 nonfarm jobs, a 0.2 percent increase.

Industry Breakdown

- Seven of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the year job gains. These gains were greatest in:
 - Construction gained 1,800 jobs, a 2.9 percent increase. The increases were in specialty trade contractors.
 - Education and health services increased by 1,600 jobs, a 0.8 percent gain. The gains were mostly in educational services.

- Financial activities added 1,400 jobs, a 1.8 percent gain. The gains were greatest in finance and insurance.
- Four of the 11 major industries reported statewide over the year job losses. These were greatest in:
 - Government declined by 1,600 jobs, or 0.6 percent. The losses were at the local level.
 - Mining and logging decreased by 1,000 jobs, or 9.3 percent. The mining and logging industry includes oil and gas production.
 - Other services declined by 500 jobs, or 1 percent.
- Seven of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported over the month job gains. The gains were greatest in:
 - Manufacturing increased by 2,600 jobs, or 1.6 percent. The increases were mainly in durable goods.
 - Leisure and hospitality gained 1,700 jobs, a 1.3 percent increase, with gains throughout the sector.
 - Trade, transportation and utilities added 1,100 jobs, or 0.4 percent. The increases were in wholesale trade and transportation, warehousing and utilities.
- Four of the 11 major industries in Kansas reported a loss over the month. The losses were greatest in:
 - Professional and business services declined by 1,900 jobs, or 1.1 percent. The losses were in professional, scientific and technical services, and administrative and support, waste management and remediation services.
 - Government lost 1,600 jobs, or 0.6 percent. The decline was mainly seasonal at the state level.
 - Other services decreased by 700 jobs, or 1.4 percent.

Private Sector Earnings

Not Seasonally Adjusted

- Private sector average weekly earnings increased by \$8.45, or 1.1 percent, since last year, to a total of \$760.09.
- Manufacturing increased the most in earnings since last year. Average weekly earnings in this industry increased by \$40.76, or 4.2 percent, since May 2014, to a total of \$1,015.16.
- Trade, transportation and utilities also had notable increases. Average weekly earnings increased by \$39.16, or 5.6 percent, since last year, to a total of \$736.50.

The June 2015 Labor Report will be released on Friday, July 17.

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